WHAT IS CLAIMED IS;

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1. A discharge lamp lighting apparatus comprising:

a converter that switches power input thereto, converts the switching output to DC power and outputs the DC power;

an inverter that converts the DC power supplied from the converter to AC rectangular wave power and outputs the AC rectangular wave power; and

a controller that comprises:

first means for generating a power detection signal by calculating power based upon a voltage detection signal and a current detection signal detected on the output side of the converter;

second means for outputting an output power command value to be used to control the DC power so as to achieve a target value;

third means for generating a correction signal to be used to correct the output power command value in conformance to the power detection signal and outputting the correction signal in synchronization with a polarity inversion of the AC rectangular wave power;

fourth means for receiving the output power command value, the correction signal and the power detection signal and outputting a signal corresponding to the error of the power detection signal relative to the output power command value having been corrected by the correction signal; and

fifth means for implementing pulse width control on the converter based upon the signal provided by the fourth means.

2. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the second means sets the current value of the DC power as a target value and controls the current.

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3. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

at least the first means and the third means in the controller are constituted with a microcomputer.

10 4. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 3, wherein:

the third means controls the level of the correction signal in conformance to the power detection signal.

- 5. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 3, wherein:
- the third means controls the length of time over which the correction signal is generated in conformance to the power detection signal.
 - 6. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 3, wherein:

the microcomputer includes means for storing a plurality of correction signal patterns; and

the third means selects a correction signal pattern among the correction signal patterns in conformance to the power detection signal and outputs the selected correction signal pattern.

7. A discharge lamp lighting apparatus comprising:

a converter that switches power input thereto, converts the switching output to DC power and outputs the DC power;

an inverter that converts the DC power supplied from the converter to AC rectangular wave power and outputs the AC rectangular wave power; and

a controller that comprises:

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a power calculation unit that generates a power detection signal by calculating power based upon a voltage detection signal and a current detection signal detected on the output side of the converter;

a control target value setting unit that outputs an output power command value to be used to control the DC power so as to achieve a target value;

a correction signal generation unit that generates a correction signal to be used to correct the output power command value in conformance to the power detection signal and outputs the correction signal in synchronization with a polarity inversion of the AC rectangular wave power;

a converter control signal generation unit that receives the output power command value, the correction signal and the power detection signal and outputs a signal corresponding to the error of the power detection signal relative to the output power command value having been corrected by the correction signal; and

a pulse width control unit that implements pulse width

control on the converter based upon the signal provided by the converter control signal generation unit.

- 8. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 7, wherein:
- 5 the control target value setting unit sets the current value of the DC power as a target value and controls the current.
 - 9. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 7, wherein:

at least the power calculation unit and the correction signal generation unit in the controller are constituted with a microcomputer.

10. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the correction signal generation unit controls the level of the correction signal in conformance to the power detection signal.

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11. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the correction signal generation unit controls the length of time over which the correction signal is generated in conformance to the power detection signal.

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12. The discharge lamp lighting apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the microcomputer includes memory in which a plurality of correction signal patterns are stored; and

the correction signal generation unit selects a correction signal

pattern among the correction signal patterns in conformance to the power detection signal and outputs the selected correction signal pattern.